

Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Guide to eMed-proctored BinaxNOW COVID-19 Antigen Home Test Kits

For Early Care and Education (ECE)/ Child Care Facilities

What type of COVID-19 tests are these? What is eMed?

VDH is contracting with [eMed](#) to provide virtually-guided rapid antigen testing using the BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag Card Home Test Kit. The BinaxNOW COVID-19 Antigen Card Home Test is a **rapid antigen test** that determines if a person is currently infected with COVID-19 or not. It uses a nasal swab for sample collection and returns test results in about 15 minutes. This test has been authorized by the FDA under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). For additional information about the test kit, refer to this [FDA brief](#).

eMed will provide on-demand telehealth sessions with a Certified Guide to proctor testing, so child care centers do **not** need to have a prescriber or CLIA waiver. These test kits are designed for use at home and do not require a healthcare provider. However, the Certified Guide must be used.

How should these tests be used?

eMed-proctored BinaxNOW tests should be used for testing of child care facility teachers, staff, and/or students ages 2 and up who 1) have COVID-19 symptoms or 2) are a close contact of an individual with COVID-19. All testing is voluntary. eMed-proctored BinaxNOW COVID-19 Antigen Card Home Test Kits **should not** be used for children less than 2 years of age.

Child care facilities are strongly recommended to send test kits home with parents, teachers, or staff to conduct the telehealth testing sessions at home. Child care facilities may also make it possible for families/caregivers to come to the facility to pick up a test kit for at-home testing.

Test kits may be used for [Test to Stay](#), an option that allows close contacts of individuals with COVID-19 who are 2 years of age or older and not up to date on COVID-19 vaccines to continue to attend the child care facility during their quarantine period. Test to Stay participants must remain asymptomatic and test negative on repeated daily rapid antigen COVID-19 tests.

Please refer to [VDH COVID-19 Guidance for Child Care Facilities](#) for additional guidance on illness detection and reporting, isolation, and quarantine for the child care setting.

How should these tests be stored?

VDH recommends storing kits in a secure location and supply should be monitored carefully. Tests must be stored at 35.6-86°F (2-30°C). The BinaxNOW Ag Card Home Test kit is stable until the expiration date marked on the outer packaging and containers. Ensure the kit has not expired prior to use. Ensure all test components are at room temperature prior to use.

How does the eMed service work?

- The eMed Certified Guide is a proctor who has received rigorous training and testing certification in the testing administration and process of the Abbott BinaxNOW COVID-19 Antigen Home Test.
- An internet-enabled device and internet connectivity is required, as well as forward facing camera and microphone enabled device.
- Individuals 15 years of age or older may self-collect and perform the test under the observation of the eMed Certified Guide. Individuals ages 2-14 will require an adult to perform the sample collection under the observation of an eMed Certified Guide.
- All individuals 15 and under must have an account managed by an adult in the NAVICA app.
- The individual taking the test (and a supervising adult, if under 15 years old) will start their testing session through their device (computer, phone, tablet).
 - They will complete a checklist provided on the website to ensure they are ready to start the test, and then be connected to an eMed Certified Guide. Guides are available on-demand with little to no wait time. Within the test kit, there is a QR code the eMed Certified Guide will scan to register the test and the individual taking it.
 - The box containing the test kit components **should not be opened** until directed to do so by the eMed Certified Guide, or the testing session will not be valid.
- While the Certified Guide observes the process, the individual being tested (or an adult, if under 15 years old) will perform the necessary actions to perform the test (using a dropper, inserting the swab in the nostrils to take a swab, sealing it accurately in the testing kit). After waiting 15 minutes, the Certified Guide will read the result. Individuals will be provided a copy of their test result.

Preparing for and Taking the Test

1. Child care facility administrators may view and share the [testing overview video](#) to better understand the testing process.
2. Proper sample collection, storage, and transport are essential for correct results.
 - ✓ Leave the test card sealed in its foil pouch until just before use.
 - ✓ Do not use if the pouch is damaged or open.
 - ✓ Do not use a kit past its expiration date.
 - ✓ Swabs in the kit are approved for use with the BinaxNOW COVID-19 Test card. Do not use other swabs.
3. Test kits should **remain unopened** until the test taker is directed to open the kit by a Certified Guide in an eMed telehealth session. To maintain the integrity of the process, eMed will not proctor a session using an opened test kit.
4. Test Administrators should go to <https://www.emed.com/app/login> and click on "I want to start testing." They will either need to set up a NAVICA™ account or login here if they

already have an account. Users also have the option to download the Navica app on a mobile device and make an account that way. To download the NAVICA app to a smartphone or device, and for more information visit:

<https://www.globalpointofcare.abbott/en/product-details/binaxnow-covid-19-home-test-us.html>.

5. Conduct the test following the directions provided by the Certified Guide.

Results Reporting

- eMed will document the test results. Positive test results will be reported by eMed to VDH as required by law.
- The tested individual will also receive a copy of their result electronically.

Student or Staff Member Tests Positive for COVID-19

If a test is positive, the individual should:

- ✓ Isolate, or stay at home and away from others. Do not attend the child care facility.
- ✓ Notify the child care facility of the positive test result.
- ✓ Follow VDH guidance on Isolation: [When is it safe to be around others: Isolation and when to end isolation](#) and [What to do if you have confirmed or suspected coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\)?](#)